

REMARKS

Claims 3, 13, and 19 have been amended to overcome the 35 USC 112, 2nd Paragraph rejection. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-12, 17-18, and 20-60 have been 5 cancelled without prejudice. Claims 3, 9, 13-16, and 19 remain in the application. These amendments have been made to put the case in *prima facie* condition for allowance. Allowance of the application, as amended is respectfully requested.

In Section 24 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 3, 9, 10 13-16 and 19 were allowable. Applicants wish to again thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims. However, in Section 2 of the Final Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-19 under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants have accordingly amended 15 claims 3, 13, and 19 as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 8, 10 and 18 have been cancelled without prejudice.

In Section 8 of the Final Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 12, 20 and 17 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsukamoto et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection but have cancelled claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 12, and 17 25 without prejudice.

In Section 16 of the Final Action, the Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsukamoto et al. Applicants respectfully 25 traverse this rejection but have cancelled claim 7 without prejudice.

In Section 18 of the Final Action, the Examiner rejected claims 6, 8, 10, 11, 16 and 18 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsukamoto et al in view of Kumar and Yamamoto et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection 30 but have cancelled these claims without prejudice.

Applicants have filed a Notice of Appeal in this application which is hereby withdrawn. Applicants will pursue prosecution of the cancelled claims in continuation or divisional applications.

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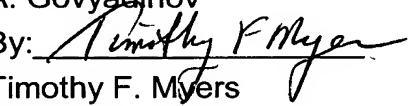
Applicants have cancelled the remaining claims that were restricted but not elected.

Applicants believe that the remaining claims 3, 9, 13-16 and 19 are in prima facie condition for allowance and accordingly kindly request a formal notice of allowance.

5 If for any reason the Examiner finds the Application other than in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

10 The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025. Should such fees be associated with an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this paper be considered a petition therefore.

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